Hydro-electric Project in Sikkim was accorded techno-economic clearance in November, 1988 and received the investment approval in April, 1990 at an estimated cost of Rs. 163.49 crores (excluding the cost of transmission line) with completion schedule of five years i.e. September, 1995. The project is being executed by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation.

(c) More than 52% of the overall project work has been completed and erection of the generating units is in progress. The Project is now expected to be commissioned by March, 1999.

(d) Among the reasons for the delay are, adverse geological condition, contractual disputes and paucity of funds.

(e) The Project would generate 343 Million Units in a 90% dependable year. The share of power of the beneficiary States will be decided as per the Gadgil formula when Project is nearing completion.

Review of schemes in the North Eastern States

166. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed various schemes under implementation in North Eastern states;

(b) if so, the progress of those schemes during the 8th Five Year Plan period, as on date;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a separate cell to study the pace of progress of different schemes in the North Eastern States and to recommend measures for rapid development of those States; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER KUMAR ALAGH): (a) to (d) Pursuant to Prime Minister's announcement of New Initiatives for the North East, concerned Ministries have been directed to review various schemes being implemented in the North-Eastern States, and to take corrective measures, as deeded necessary. Progress in implementation is being monitored by Secretaries of the Ministries/Departments and the Prime Minister's Office.

Meterage of on-shore and off-shore drilling

167. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise meterage of exploratory drilling during the last three years on-shore and off-shore, and at what average cost per meter;

(b) the deepest and lowest depths of on-shore and off-shore bore holes where oil has been found during the last three years;

(c) the total number of bore holes drilled, year-wise and State-wise during each of the last three years and out of these how many struck exploitable oil reserves;

(d) what have been the financial provisions for on-shore and off-shore exploratory drillings during the last three years, and what has been its utilization; and

(e) out of these financial provisions/ utilization, how much meterage of exploratory drilling can be/has been done, on-shore and off-shore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revamping of Indira Awas Yojana

168. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to revamp the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY);

(b) whether the IAY is proposed to be extended to the non-SC/ST families also;

(c) the funds proposed under IAY for 1996-97;

(d) the target of construction of houses fixed under IAY for the year 1996-97, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve the target?